BMNR
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August 24, 1940

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILES

Re: Cedar Pole Borer, Trachykele opulenta Fall., Oakridge District, Willamette National Forest

On August 22 I stopped at the Oakridge Ranger Station to see Ranger McFarland in regard to the cedar pole borers which he had reported as being particularly prevalent in that district. Ranger McFarland was out on a field trip so I did not get to see him but talked to his assistant, Mr. Orr and the forest guard, Mr. Ashe.

According to Mr. Orr the cedar pole borer is exceedingly prevalent throughout the entire district and is found to some extent in practically all cedar trees from young trees of very small diameter up to the large old, overmature trees. The borers usually start their attack around nodes and may be distributed throughout the entire bole of the tree or confined to one or two spots close to limb stubs. There seems to be no particular reason to their distribution, as they are found in dense old growth stands on north slopes as well as in more exposed places. He was of the opinion that greatest damage was found adjacent to old burns where insect population may have developed in fire killed timber.

Mr. Orr has cut a lot of cedar poles himself and is quite familiar with the work of these borers. He says that the present specifications for cedar pole borer damage are unreasonable since practically all poles have some borers in them. It was his opinion that a great deal of help could be given the industry by modifying the present severe restrictions on borer damage to make these conform more closely with actual damage

in the poles rather than prevalence or not of a few insects.

If opportunity permits a study of the cedar pole borer will be started by someone in this office.

FPK.
F. P. Keen